

IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A container receiving unit for use in an apparatus for preparing a beverage, said container receiving unit comprising:

[[ -]] a receiving space for receiving a container arranged for holding a beverage base material,

[[ -]] a reservoir for containing the beverage,

[[ -]] a distribution system, comprising an inlet connected to said reservoir, at least two outlets for dispensing the beverage, and a liquid flow path, extending from the inlet to the outlets,

~~characterized in that wherein~~ the liquid flow path comprises means for ~~reducing evenly~~ distributing the beverage over the at least two outlets by reducing the speed of the beverage flowing

from the reservoir to the at least two outlets during operation.

2. (Currently Amended) A The container receiving unit as claimed in Claim 1, characterized in that wherein said means comprise a restriction in the liquid flow path.

3. (Currently Amended) A The container receiving unit as claimed in Claim 2, characterized in that wherein said restriction comprises at least one wall extending transversally to the liquid flow path.

4. (Currently Amended) A The container receiving unit as claimed in Claim 2, characterized in that wherein the restriction is V-shaped.

5. (Currently Amended) A container receiving unit as claimed in Claim 3, characterized in that for use in an apparatus for preparing a beverage, said container receiving unit comprising:  
a receiving space for receiving a container arranged for  
holding a beverage base material;

a reservoir for containing the beverage;  
a distribution system comprising an inlet connected to said  
reservoir, at least two outlets for dispensing the beverage, and a  
liquid flow path, extending from the inlet to the outlets;  
wherein the liquid flow path comprises two opposing triangular  
walls are provided extending transversally to the liquid flow path  
for reducing the speed of the beverage flowing from the reservoir  
to the outlets during operation.

6. (Currently Amended) A container receiving unit as claimed  
in Claim 2, characterized in that for use in an apparatus for  
preparing a beverage, said container receiving unit comprising:

a receiving space for receiving a container arranged for  
holding a beverage base material;  
a reservoir for containing the beverage;  
a distribution system comprising an inlet connected to said  
reservoir, at least two outlets for dispensing the beverage, and a  
liquid flow path, extending from the inlet to the outlets;  
wherein the liquid flow path comprises a central transport  
channel discharging into a buffer chamber via the a restriction in

the liquid flow path, said buffer chamber discharging into the outlets.

7. (Currently Amended) A The container receiving unit as claimed in Claim 6, characterized in that wherein a further restriction is provided between the buffer chamber and the outlets.

8. (Currently Amended) A The container receiving unit as claimed in Claim 6, characterized in that wherein a surface is provided between the buffer chamber and each outlet, which surface slants towards the outlet.

9. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for preparing a beverage, characterized in that the apparatus comprises comprising a container receiving unit as claimed in claim 1.

10. (Currently Amended) An The apparatus as claimed in Claim 9, characterized in that the apparatus comprises further comprising a water unit for supplying hot water via a transport channel to the receiving space.